

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The following auxiliary airfields are located in northern Bulgaria:

- a. The airfield at Byala Slatina (N 43-28, E 23-56), situated west of town, bounded on the east by Byala Slatina, on the south by the road leading to the village of Borovan (N 43-25, E 23-43), on the west by fields, and on the north by a woods; the field, which is 1,000 x 350 meters in size, with the longer dimension running east and west, could be extended or enlarged to the west by eliminating fields and vineyards and could possibly be extended to the south by re-routing the road; the field is grassy, solid, and level, and has been used by Soviet-made YAKs; there are no buildings at the field; prevailing winds are from west to east;
- b. The airfield at Vratsa has been designated as an auxiliary airfield but, since houses have been built on it, it would not be available for immediate use in case of hostilities;
- c. The airfield at Borovan (N 43-25, E 23-43) is located on the west side of the village, and is designated as an auxiliary airfield, although it is completely inadequate because of the irregularity of the terrain;
- d. There are two auxiliary airfields at Vidin, as follows:
 - (1) An airfield located southwest of Vidin and west of the school for gardeners; at present it is covered by a number of fruit trees, leaving only enough space for a light plane;
 - (2) An airfield situated north of the airfield described above, west of Vidin, near the tile factory; this field is small and is usually flooded in the spring and fall by waters from the Danube River;

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- e. The airfield at Pordim (N 43-23, E 24-52) is poorly maintained and its usefulness is limited, but it can be used for small liaison planes;
 - f. The airfield at Polikraishte (N 43-11, E 25-37), is located north of town, in the Gorna Oryakhovitsa area; it is 900 x 300 meters in size, with the longer dimension running north and south; the field is grassy, has not been used since 1937, and is suitable only for small planes; there are no buildings in the area; there is no possibility of enlarging this field; prevailing winds are from west to east;
 - g. The airfield at Krusheto (N 43-14, E 25-41) is located three kilometers from Polikraishte airfield, is suitable only for small aircraft, and cannot be enlarged;
 - h. The airfield at Bukhovtsi (N 43-19, E 26-43) Shumen Okoliya, is located south of the village; the field is bounded on the south by fields, on the west by the Shumen - Turgovishte road, on the east by fields, and on the north by Bukhovtsi; the field is higher at its southern end than it is at its northern end, and measures 800 x 500 meters in size, with the longer dimension running east and west; at the southwest corner of the field, there is an excavation approximately one meter deep from which clay has been taken to make tile; the field could be enlarged to the west and to the south; prevailing winds are from the east to west; there are no buildings near the field; and
 - i. The airfield at Dobrich is located three kilometers north of Dobrich and just east of the road which extends north from Dobrich; open fields border the other sides of the airfield; the airport measures 1,500 x 1,500 meters in size and the ground is level for the most part, with only a few undulations; the field has no hangar but includes several barracks; at present the field is suitable for aircraft of many types and could be enlarged; the ground is solid and partially covered with grass.
2. The following auxiliary airfields are located in southern Bulgaria:
- a. The airfield at Okrop (N 42-25, E 26-33), is located 6-7 kilometers south of the town of Yambol, and is bordered on the east by the Yambol-Elkhovo road, and on the other three sides by fields, tableland, and grass lands; this airfield is 1,200 x 1,200 meters in size and is very muddy; prevailing winds are from east to west; barracks are located across the road to the west and are sufficient to house the personnel necessary to maintain and fly one Yato (company) of 12 airplanes; the field may be used at present by all types of aircraft and can be enlarged;
 - b. The airfield at Ivanovo (N 41-51, E 25-51) is located 13 kilometers from Kharmanlii on the south side of the Kharmanlii - Khaskovo road; the field is large, level, and covered with grass; its longer dimension runs parallel to the road;
 - c. The airfield at Malevo (N 41-51, E 25-38) is located approximately eight kilometers southwest of Khaskovo, between the Khaskovo - Kurdzhali road, which borders it on the northwest, and the Khaskovo - Kurdzhali railway line, which borders it on the southeast; the field is grassy and is 1,200 - 1,500 x 1,000 meters in size, with the longer dimension running in a northwest-southeast direction; the ground is hardest near the road and at this location it slopes toward the southeast, but the majority of the airfield is soft and boggy, and cannot be used in the spring and fall; all types of aircraft can use this airfield and there are sufficient barracks to house the personnel of one Yato of 12 airplanes; prevailing winds are from west to east;

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- d. The airfield at Cherna Gora (N 42-13, E 25-14) is located south of the railway station between Plovdiv and Chirpan, and near the second or third station from Chirpan; the field is bordered on the north by the railroad, and its other sides are bordered by fields; the airfield is 1,200 x 1,000 meters in size, with the longer dimension running in a southeast-northwest direction; the ground is level and grassy; one barracks is located near the railroad; it would be possible to enlarge the airfield although it at present can handle all types of aircraft; prevailing winds are from west to east;
 - e. The airfield at Krumovo (N 42-05, E 24-48) is located seven kilometers southeast of Plovdiv and is bordered by fields and the village of Krumovo; on the southwest side, it is bordered by the Plovdiv - Asenovgrad railway line, and on the north by fields; Krumovo airfield measures 2,000 x 1,000 meters in size, with the longer dimension running east and west, and includes several barracks; this field is one of the largest in Bulgaria, has excellent terrain, is well covered with grass, and may be used by any type aircraft; the field could be enlarged toward the north;
 - f. The airfield at Sliven is located southeast of the city of Sliven; it is large but its exact dimensions are not known; the ground is firm, dry, and well covered with grass; the barracks have not been rebuilt since they were burned in 1945;
 - g. The airfield at Asen (N 42-39, E 25-11) is located at the southern edge of the village of Asen, Kazanluk Okoliya, and measures 800-1,000 x 800-1,000 meters in size; the ground is hard and covered with grass but the field slopes slightly from north to south; Asen airfield was originally used by the Germans as a Messerschmitt fighter base and later as an auxiliary field by the Bulgarian pilot school formerly located at Kazanluk; this field includes no buildings;
 - h. Kazanlashkite Bani (sic) airfield is located southeast of Kazanluk and is small, has a soft surface, and can only be used by light planes; in the spring and fall the field is often under water; it was used by the former pilot school at Kazanluk as an emergency field; there are no buildings located on this field;
 - i. Maslari (Musachevo N 42-41, E 23-35) airfield is located 12 kilometers east of Sofia and south of the village of Maslari; the field is covered with grass, but in the spring and fall it is too soft to use; it formerly was used as a training field, and measures 1,000 x 500 meters in size, with the longer dimension running east and west; there is one barracks building at this base;
 - j. The airfield at Kurnolovo (N 41-28, E 23-13) is located near the village of Kurnolovo, seven kilometers east of Petrich, on the south side of the Petrich-Sofia road; the ground is level, hard, and grass-covered; the field is small and was used by the Germans as a base for Stuka dive bombers; there are no buildings on this field; its longer dimension is parallel to the road;
 - k. The airfield at Nevrokop is located south of the town of Nevrokop, is very small, and is surrounded by fields; and
 - l. The airfield at Vurba (N 42-31, E 22-58) is located 12 kilometers southeast of the village of Radomir; the field is small and during World War II it was used by the Germans to base Fokker-Wulf Zyklop reconnaissance planes.
3. The only airfields in southern Bulgaria which are suitable for modern warplanes are listed above. The airfields located in the Struma River Valley are too small to handle the landing speeds of modern aircraft.
 4. Guards are stationed only at those airfields where barracks are located.

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